

Carol Coles

From: Carol Coles**Sent:** Friday, August 20, 2010 2:48 PM**To:** *everyone; _Council Members; Andy Rieger; Denise Holder; Eddie Sims; Jane Cannon; KGOU; KOCO; KOKH; Ktok; KTOK; Norman News; Oklahoma Daily**Subject:** Installation of Art Sculpture on East Main Street Roundabout

City of Norman
201 West Gray
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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On Monday, August 23, 2010, contractors will begin erection of an art sculpture in the center of the East Main Street Roundabout located at the intersection of Main Street, Acres Street and Carter Avenue. The art sculpture, called Indian Grass, has been designed and will be installed by artists Juan and Patricia Navarette of Taos, New Mexico. "Indian Grass", Oklahoma's state grass, builds upon the natural environment of the City of Norman, reflecting the connection that exists between its people and place.

The roundabout will remain open to traffic with the exception of the western segment of the circle located between Acres Street and Main Street. Work zone signage and barricades will be placed around 5:00 am. on Monday morning to direct motorists. The project will be completed by Tuesday, August 24, 2010.

This is the first major project of the Norman Public Arts Board, a subsidiary of the Norman Arts Council, which was created in 2007 by the Norman City Council to promote the values of public art and expand the City's collection of art. The extensive search for this sculpture involved a selection panel of local citizens who reviewed over sixty proposals from artists throughout the United States as well as two international artists.

Funding for this sculpture and future projects is supported through voluntary monthly donations in citizen's utility bills, direct donations to the Norman Arts Council's Art in Public Places Fund and a citywide fund drive. The City of Norman installed the foundation and the landscaping for the sculpture. The City of Norman will maintain the roundabout including the art sculpture and associated features.

For additional information, please contact the Norman Arts Council, 20 E. Main Street, Norman, OK 73069 or call (405) 360-1162. For any questions regarding the construction zone or traffic safety, please contact the City Public Works Department at (404)366-5453.